# Mountain Weather Forecast

## Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 17 Mar 2023 until 23:59 on Saturday 18 Mar 2023

Forecast Issued on Friday 17 Mar 2023 at 03:15

**Confidence:** High for mild and showery conditions through Friday and Saturday then for a window for more settled weather on Sunday. Some uncertainty in the timings of rain from late Sunday onwards so please keep up to date with the forecast.

**Headline for Friday 17 Mar 2023:** A showery day but brightening up in the afternoon. Windy on the tops.

**Mountain weather hazards on Friday 17 Mar 2023**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Blizzards**<br>No Likelihood | **Heavy persistent snow**<br>No Likelihood | **Storm force winds**<br>No Likelihood |
| **Gales**<br>No Likelihood | **Severe chill effect**<br>No Likelihood | **Poor visibility**<br>Medium Likelihood |
| **Thunderstorms**<br>Low Likelihood | **Heavy persistent rain**<br>No Likelihood | **Strong sunlight**<br>No Likelihood |

| **Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m** | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Time | | | | | |
| 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 |
| FOG | FOG | | | | |
| Fog | Fog | Sunny intervals | Sunny intervals | Sunny intervals | Light rain |
| Precipitation probability | | | | | |
| 30% | 20% | 20% | 20% | 20% | 60% |

**Forecast for Friday 17 Mar 2023**

**Weather:** A largely cloudy morning with some showers but some brightness across northern and eastern fells. A brighter afternoon with sunny intervals and scattered showers, some heavy with a very small chance of hail and thunder but moving through quickly. Mostly cloudy with further showers in the evening.

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m:** 20% in morning, best chance in northeast. Improving to 70% in afternoon.

**Low cloud and visibility:** Areas of fog and low cloud above 400m in the morning, mainly over southern and western fells with patches on lower slopes. Cloud lifting and breaking in the afternoon with most summits clearing. Away from cloud, mainly good but briefly less than 10km in any showers.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Forecast for Friday 17 Mar 2023**

| Height (m) | Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | 31/36 SW | 24/29 S | 23/28 S | 18/23 S | 15/19 SE | 18/23 SE | 16/20 SE |
| **600** | 25/32 SW | 20/25 S | 18/25 S | 15/21 S | 14/20 SE | 17/24 SE | 15/21 SE |
| **300** | 7/22 SW | 7/19 S | 7/19 S | 7/17 S | 4/14 SE | 6/17 SE | 5/15 SE |
| **Valley** | 7/22 SW | 6/18 S | 8/18 S | 6/15 S | 4/13 SE | 6/16 SE | 5/13 SE |

| Height (m) | Temperature / Feels Like (°C) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **900** | 5/-1 | 4/-2 | 4/-2 | 5/-0 | 5/0 | 5/-0 | 4/-0 |
| **600** | 6/1 | 6/1 | 6/2 | 7/4 | 7/3 | 6/2 | 6/2 |
| **300** | 7/5 | 7/5 | 8/6 | 10/9 | 8/8 | 8/6 | 7/6 |
| **Valley** | 8/6 | 8/7 | 10/8 | 11/10 | 10/9 | 9/8 | 9/8 |
| **Freezing Level*** | 1500m | 1500m | 1400m | 1400m | 1500m | 1600m | 1600m |

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

**Meteorologist's View**

A mild day down in the valleys but still feeling cold on the tops, especially in low cloud and in any showers.

**Forecast for Saturday 18 Mar 2023**

**Weather:** Mainly cloudy with occasional showers, perhaps heavy at times. Some bright spells in the afternoon, best chance of these in the north and east. Becoming dry, clear and colder in the evening.

**Maximum wind:** South or Southwest 10-15mph, gusts 20-25mph.

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m:** 40%, becoming 90% during evening.

**Low cloud and visibility:** Areas of low cloud and fog above 500m with patches on lower slopes, lifting to 800m in the afternoon then clearing totally during the evening. Generally good visibility away from cloud but brief reductions in showers.

**Temperature:** **Valleys:** 8C, rising to 12C, falling to 2C in evening.
**At 800m:** Plus 5C, falling to 0C during evening.
**Freezing level:** Above summits, falling to 800m in evening.

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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Ground Conditions Supplement**

Date: Thursday 16 March. Location: Helvellyn summit at 14:30. Temperature: plus 4.7C. Maximum wind speed 38.6mph. Wind chill: minus 0.7C. Average wind speed: 27.0mph.

Full report:

Overnight snow quickly gave way to a turbo thaw as the freezing level rose rapidly well above the Lake District summits. The fells have been quickly stripped of much of their snow cover by 5 degree C summit temperatures and heavy rain which has also brought many streams and rivers up into spate. Patches of snow remain above 500m predominately on N and E aspects and behind features, in hollows and gully exits. This snow was saturated, thawing fast and slippery underfoot especially on the Helvellyn edges where microspikes were very useful. Small cornices exist above steep easterly aspects and were slumping and unstable in the warm temperatures. There was also plenty of evidence of small collapses on the scarp slopes below.

The freezing level is not forecast to drop below summit level until after the weekend by which time most paths will be clear of snow. Despite winter doing a quick disappearing act winter clothing and skills are still essential for anyone venturing onto the fells. Full waterproofs, warm layers and plenty of spare pairs of gloves were essential to combat the incessant wind and rain. Low cloud gave limited visibility and challenging conditions for navigation. In these conditions mobile phones are of limited use for navigation as they aren't designed for operation in wet environments and can quickly fail.

Issued at: 03:15 on Fri 17 Mar 2023


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